

SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

MARCH 27, 2014 3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Dale Engelhardt, Vice Chair, NGENC Technical Subcommittee</i>
ATTENDEES	Core Team Members: Dale Engelhardt, Kevin Kesler, Stan Hunter, Allan Paul, Jack Madden, Phil Meraz, Melissa Wilbers, Vincent Brotski, Michael Burshtin, Melissa Shurland, Nico Lindenau, Sara Sarkhili, Jeff Gordon, Curtis McDowell, Steve Hewitt, Industry Participants: Al Engel, Randy Thomure, James Michel, Craig Berger, Josh Coran, Bill Slater, Steve Morrison, Rich Stegner, Tom Hunt, Walt Stringer
ABSENTEES	<i>Mario Bergeron, Marci Petterson, Art Peterson, Kerri Wohler, Dave Warner, Darrell Smith, Tammy Krause, Greg Gagarin, Andrew Wood, Jeff Schultz, Devin Rouse, Anand Prabhakaran, Charles Bielitz, Michael Coltman, Brian Marquis, Patricia Llana, Camren Cordell, Larry Salci, Shayne Gill</i>

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

1.

In the absence of Chairman Bergeron, Vice Chairman Dale Engelhardt, Amtrak, called today's meeting to order and asked Steve Hewitt to call the roll.

After calling the roll, Steve confirmed the presence of a quorum.

As always, industry participants are asked to email a notification of their attendance to Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com

2.

Review of the Meeting Agenda – Dale Engelhardt:

Dale Engelhardt provided a brief overview of today's meeting agenda.

3.

Review of Action Items – Steve Hewitt:

Steve Hewitt reviewed the open action items, providing a brief update on those items that were not to be specifically covered on the agenda:

Maintaining Industry Participation List: Status: Steve reported that this remains an ongoing action item. There are currently **229** registered industry participants.

Requesting Backgrounder educational document: The Backgrounder, as updated, is available now. Please contact Steve Hewitt with the number of copies you want and where to send them.

Updating ECP Standards: This is an ongoing item which the Technical subcommittee is tracking – it is anticipated that status updates will take place on every other call rather than on each call.

Status: The next report will be provided on April 10, 2014.

Metro North Dual Mode Specification: Jack Madden, NYSDOT, will continue to keep the subcommittee updated on the status of the Metro North Dual Mode specification as it is developed. (This is an internal New York State process, not an official NGENC effort.) Metro North is continuing its review of the RFI responses.

Status: Jack Madden, NYSDOT, reported that the NY team did not have a call this week due to schedule and work load conflicts, but anticipates that he will have an update on the next subcommittee call.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the March 13, 2014 Technical subcommittee conference calls – Dale Engelhardt:

On a motion by Allan Paul, NCDOT, and a second by Phil Meraz, Iowa DOT, the Minutes from the March 13 2014 Technical subcommittee call were approved without objection.

5. Accessibility Working Group/related issues update - Melissa Shurland:

a. RVAAC update:

Melissa Shurland, FRA, reported that the Vertical Access subcommittee last met on March 26th. They are making good progress and are developing a strawman for vertical accessibility. They are looking at accessibility using vertical lifts – elevators or chair lifts.

Melissa noted that only two car builders (Bombardier and Talgo) participated on the call, and she emphasized the need for additional industry experts to get involved in the effort. She called this a “prime opportunity for members of the technical subcommittee to participate and lend their expertise.”

The subcommittee chair has taken the action of developing drawings to detail what came out of yesterday’s (3-26-14) meeting.

The next meeting of the subcommittee is scheduled for April 3, 2014 at 1:00pm Eastern. Call-in information can be found on the RVAAC website, and Melissa will also provide Steve Hewitt with the information to disseminate to all Technical subcommittee members.

The full RVAAC will meet in Washington, DC on April 13, 2014.

b. Status Update: NDA re: single level restroom drawings:

Melissa reported that OSU has not yet received the drawings from Amtrak, but she anticipated they would be forthcoming shortly. Dale Engelhardt will check on the status.

6. Document Control update – Steve Hewitt for Dave Warner:

Dave Warner provided the following update for inclusion in today’s minutes, and, in Dave’s absence, Steve Hewitt read them into the record:

"A revised Bi-Level clearance diagram (PRIIA 305-801) has been posted to our web site as a result of recent changes approved by Amtrak to the underlying document (B-066-00050, Rev. C). Camren is working on updating the Trainset Revision A specification that was approved last December by the Executive Board. Tammy Krause has sent the current draft of the Digital Trainline specification to Camren for formatting.

We have received the proposed changes to the diesel-electric locomotive specification. Jeff Gordon and I have reviewed them, and have returned comments back to the procurement team. Once the comments are addressed, I will submit the changes to the Executive Board for forwarding to the Review Panel for its review. Hopefully this process can happen within a week, but we don't know how long the procurement team will need to answer our questions, and provide an updated submission. Jeff or the procurement team may have more details in agenda item 8."

Stan Hunter, Caltrans, reported that he has been working with IDOT, and coordinating with Jeff Gordon, on the changes to the diesel-electric locomotive spec which will, ultimately, be used for the development of the PRIIA Dual Mode Locomotive specification. Stan noted that he has been extremely busy with the bi-level final design review, but expects to get the comments on the changes to the D-E locomotive completed soon and submitted back to Dave Warner.

Jack Madden, NYSDOT, asked if the locomotive review panel was ready to go, and Steve Hewitt noted that the review panel is appointed, but acts only on the direction of the Executive Board. Once the Board has received the changes from Document Control – Eric Curtit, NGENC chair, will convene the locomotive review panel.

7. Update: NGENC procurements:

Diesel-electric locomotive - IDOT:

In the absence of representation from IDOT, no status update on the diesel-electric locomotive procurement was provided today.

Bi-Level Car Procurement – Stan Hunter, Caltrans:

Stan Hunter reported that there has been “a flurry of activity” on the bi-level cars. Last week the car shell was on the shop floor in Rochelle, Illinois, and was used as the venue for mock up review. Review on many elements was conducted including; toilet area, seating room, café car – upper and lower levels - and more. Most of the designs were found to be “in good shape”. For the most part there will be “fine tuning and tweaking of some of the designs, and analyzing the position of some elements.” The mock up review found some areas that were problematic such as the electric locker. Overall, the review has given “us a much better sense for the design of the vehicle.”

The review last week was attended by representatives from various offices within FRA, as well as by representatives from Michigan, IDOT, Missouri and Wisconsin (and Caltrans).

Week 2 of the final design review will take place next week and the week after that it will continue in Japan. Following that there will be a meeting with Volpe (week of April 17th) on car design. Thereafter, there will be two more weeks of final design review on the remaining elements.

Stan reported that they are working on strategies to acquire option cars to add to the procurement which will allow Nippon Sharyo to accelerate production from 4 cars to 6 cars a month. This will help with the issue of expending the funds before the ARRA expiration date.

All in all, Stan reported that it has been a very busy, but productive time, as “we move from a paperwork exercise to 3 dimensional steel”.

8. Status: Diesel-electric locomotive specification for use in a PRIIA Dual Mode Spec Development - IDOT/Caltrans:

This item was covered under the document control agenda item.

9. Adjourn:

With no other business to come before the subcommittee today, Dale Engelhardt adjourned this conference call meeting of the Technical subcommittee at approximately 3:30 pm Eastern.

Next conference call – April 10, 2014 – 3:00pm Eastern

Decisions and Action Items

RVAAC conference calls are being held weekly. Information on the RVAAC effort can be found on the Access Board website. The next full RVAAC meeting is April 10th at the US Access Board. The next call of the vertical access subcommittee will be held on April 3, 2014. Industry experts/technical subcommittee members are urged to attend the conference calls and lend their expertise. Call in information can be found on the RVAAC website, and Melissa will provide the information to Steve Hewitt as well for dissemination to the NGEC technical subcommittee members.

Updating ECP Standards: remains as a standing action item and as activities occur; Paul Jamieson will provide status updates to the subcommittee. (Ongoing) Next update: April 10, 2014

Maintaining Industry Participation List: This remains an ongoing action item. There are currently **229** registered industry participants. (ongoing)

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| 2. Review meeting agenda | Dale Engelhardt |
| 3. Review Action Items | Steve Hewitt |
| 4. Approve Minutes of March 13, 2014 | Dale Engelhardt |
| 5. Accessibility Working Group/related issues update | Melissa Shurland |
| c. RVAAC update | |
| d. Status Update: NDA re: single level restroom drawings | |
| 6. Document Control update | Steve Hewitt for Dave Warner |
| 7. Update: Procurements | |
| a. Diesel-electric locomotive | Art Peterson |
| b. Bi-level Cars | Stan Hunter |
| 8. Status: | IDOT/Caltrans |
| Finalizing D-E loco Spec for use in PRIIA Dual Mode development | |
| 9. Review this meeting: | Steve Hewitt |
| a) Decisions | |
| b) New Action Items | |

***Technical Sub Committee Conference Call Meeting:
Thursday March 27, 2014 3:00 Eastern 1-866-209-1307 / passcode 6486648#***

***Please call in a few minutes early so all is in attendance for Roll Call.
Thank you***

Next Call – 4-10-14 at 3:00pm Eastern